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(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB96/01094 (22) International Filing Date: 7 May 1996 (07.05.96) (30) Priority Data: 9509164.1 5 May 1995 (05.05.95) GB (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): SMITHKLINE BEECHAM PLC (GB/GB); New Horizons Court, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9EP (GB). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): SMITH, Richard, An- thony, Godwin (GB/GB); SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceu- ticals, Coldharbour Road, The Pinnacles, Harlow, Essex CM19 5AD (GB). BEELEY, Lee, James (GB/GB); SmithK- line Beecham Pharmaceuticals, Great Burgh, Yew Tree Bot- tom Road, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5XQ (GB). (74) Agent: RUTTER, Keith; SmithKline Beecham, Corporate In- tellectual Property, SB House, Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9BD (GB).		(81) Designated States: JP, US, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.
(54) Title: BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE PEPTIDE FRAGMENTS OF OB PROTEIN (57) Abstract <p>The present invention provides a protein fragment of the <i>ob</i> protein, being an active site of said protein. The active site is suitably provided by the <i>ob</i> protein when it is in the form of a four helix bundle structure, particularly that having an up-up down-down topology. In particular, the active site is formed from one or more amino acids selected from one or more of the four helices forming the secondary structure of the <i>ob</i> protein, especially a protein fragment consisting of amino acid residues 26 to 39, 74 to 88, 93 to 113 or 142 to 161. The compounds of the invention are considered to be capable of regulating the physiological activity of the <i>ob</i> protein and are therefor of potential use in the treatment of nutritional and metabolic disorders, particularly obesity and diabetes in the case of agonists and anorexia and cachexia in the case of antagonists.</p>		

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